

What is the impact of Bond resources on attainment levels in 11+ exams?



What is the impact of Bond resources on attainment levels in 11+ exams?

In early 2017, Oxford University Press ran a study to evaluate the impact of Bond resources on attainment levels in 11+ style tests.

This study was conducted to explore whether the use of Bond resources prepare children more effectively for 11+ tests than using other resources or using no resources.

The project involved the following four stages:

1

Recruitment and sample split

92 participants were recruited to take part. They were then divided into two groups – those using Bond resources during the study and a comparison group that used other resources or no resources.

2

Pre-intervention exam

Participants sat a mock 11+ exam, written to reflect the question types of the Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) and GL Assessment (GL) 11+ tests, at the start of the study.

3

Intervention period

Research participants in the **Bond** group were given a small selection of Bond resources and instructions for usage over an eight-week period. Participants in the **Comparison** group were asked to continue with their usual home learning activity during this same eight week period but could not use any Bond materials.

4

Post-intervention exam

Participants took a second mock 11+ exam immediately following the intervention period.

What is the impact of Bond resources on attainment levels in 11+ exams?

Pre- and post-intervention exams

Children were asked to sit a **mock 11+ exam** at the start of the study and sit a different **mock 11+ exam** at the end of the eight-week intervention period.

The pre- and post-intervention tests were administered under test conditions, with children sitting at separate desks and an invigilator moderating the exam sessions. These tests were designed by an independent educational consultant, who is a primary school teacher and private tutor specialising in preparing children for the 11+ exam.

The papers contained comprehension, verbal reasoning, maths, and non-verbal reasoning questions and represented the question styles of the two major examining boards for the 11+, CEM and GL.



What is the impact of Bond resources on attainment levels in 11+ exams?

How were the participants chosen?

The research sample was made up of children who were in Year 5 at school and who lived in the catchment area of a grammar school. The following criteria were used to ensure the sample was relevant and contained a representative spread of participants:

- **Attainment levels** 50% of participants to be above the expected standard for their year group, whilst the remaining 50% to be at the expected standard for their year, in both English and maths.
- **Gender** 50:50 split by gender.
- **Private tuition** 20% of the Bond group and Comparison group to be receiving private tuition or already preparing in some way.
- **Entering 11+ exam** At least 20% of each group planning to take 11+ tests in 2017 for grammar school selection.
- **Previous use of resources** A mix of participants who have previously used no resources, Bond resources, or competitor brands.

Location

The research was conducted in two locations: the Wirral and Birmingham. These locations were selected because the 11+ is taken in both regions and each has recent experience of both the CEM and GL tests.

What is the impact of Bond resources on attainment levels in 11+ exams?

The intervention period

Research participants in the **Bond** group were given the Bond resources after completing the pre-intervention exam and were provided with instructions for usage. They were also given a self-completion diary and questionnaire.

Research participants in the **Comparison** group were given a self-completion diary and questionnaire and asked to continue using their usual learning resources and homework provided by school, as they would ordinarily during this time.

What resources were used during the intervention period?



Bond How To Do 11+

Bond Test Papers



Bond 10 Minute Tests



Subscription to Bond Online

Note: The Bond group were restricted to using only Bond resources for 11+ preparation for the duration of the study.

What is the impact of Bond resources on attainment levels in 11+ exams?

The study showed that children using Bond material within the trial achieved a greater improvement in test scores, on average, than those using alternative resources or no resources.

The average overall scores after the intervention period were 4% higher for the Bond group than the Comparison group. In addition, 61% of the Bond group achieved higher scores in the post-intervention test versus the pre-intervention test, compared to 42% of the Comparison group achieving higher scores.

Scores on comprehension questions showed the greatest improvement in the average test scores compared to other subjects for the Bond group.

The study showed that, overall, the more time that was spent using the Bond resources, the greater the improvements in average scores.

Both Bond's printed and Bond Online resources were rated as at least **good** by the majority of parents and learners using the materials in the study.



What is the impact of Bond resources on attainment levels in 11+ exams?

Why do parents and children value Bond?

Here are some of the things the participants of the study said about Bond resources...

“We liked having paper and online options ... Great opportunity to build on current knowledge and learn new things.” **Parent**

“They explain everything thoroughly and in a way that I can understand.” **Child**

“It’s very well presented and of great help in letting us understand what level he is at and where we need to focus his studies for the 11+.” **Parent**

“Good tutorials online with excellent explanations.” **Parent**

“They pushed me further than my school do.” **Child**

“I liked the lessons on the website because they were easy to follow and made it sound easy.” **Child**

“I loved the online stuff. It’s really easy to follow and great explanations too.” **Parent**



Want to find out more?

To find out more about Bond and how it can help you and your child successfully prepare for the 11+ or other selective school exams, visit www.bond11plus.co.uk

This product has been evaluated using the Oxford Impact Framework. The Framework is a systematic approach to evaluating the impact of Oxford University Press products and services, developed through a unique collaboration with the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) and supported by the Oxford University Department of Education.



OXFORD IMPACT FRAMEWORK
EVALUATING EDUCATIONAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FROM OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

CREATED WITH



Evidence for
Excellence in
Education

SUPPORTED BY



Department of Education
University of Oxford

